Salisbury University
Nabb Research Center
for Delmarva History and Culture
Chesapeake Bay

Shoreline

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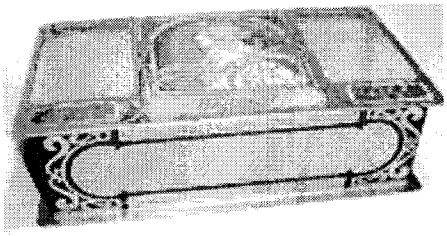
Spotlight on Collections



This month the Nabb Center shares a special piece from its material culture archives that is in keeping with the sweet things of the holiday season. It is a Whitman's candy tin from 1924 (above). The decorated tin box is part of the extensive Norman Elzey Collection at the Center. It is rectangular in shape and measures 71/2" by 4" by 2". On the lid there is an Art Nouveau woman drawn with all her frills, while the rest of the box boasts detailed swirls in an array of red, green, gold and blue colors.

There was a special Whitman chocolate candy called "Salmugundi" that was sold in this particular container. Each new candy was presented to the public with a new look and a distinctly new purpose. An old advertisement for this model of Whitman chocolates read: "Loosen the silken cords of Salmugundi ... this metal box is alluring the name piques ones curiosity the silken cord is enticing and the chocolates! The chocolates were made, not to be described, but to be tasted."

The Center brings the delicious memories of the past to those of the present. These wonderful pieces of U.S. culture give the people of today a blast from the sweet past.

Miles-Stevenson Winner

The Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture is proud to announce Rebecca R. West (right) as its fall 2003 winner of the Miles-Stevenson Prize in Research. Rebecca is the daughter of Richard and Lois West of Rockville, MD.

Rebecca is a junior at Salisbury University where she is majoring in history. She authored an outstanding paper as part of a class project for Dr. Creston Long's Pro-Seminar class. Her project, a biographical sketch on the 17th-century Delmarvan George Johnson of Somerset County required a competent understanding of 17th-century society, culture and handwriting. She spent a lot of time in the Nabb Center researching original, primary documents to be able to communicate Johnson's long-forgotten story to the people of today. Her work will be on file in the Nabb Center for genealogists, fellow students and people just interested in further exploring the life of the Eastern Shore of old.

This Miles-Stevenson Research Prize is made possible each semester by Marelynn Zipser of Salt Lake City, UT. The award was created in honor of her ancestors and her love of history.

Jones Honored

In November, Nabb Center Director Becky Miller attended the open house of the Ivy AKAdemy held in the downtown Fruitland Community Center. On this day, Mrs. Mary Gladys Jones (right) was honored for her many years of devotion to the local youth through education. Historically, the Fruitland Center served as the "Morris Street School" to African-American students from 1912–1957. Mrs. Jones was a teacher there for grades two through four from 1956-1957 when the school was relocated to a new facility called "Cedar Lane School." As the open house honoree, Mrs. Jones' old classroom and the new Fruitland Community Center archives were dedicated to her.

Mrs. Jones retired in 1981 after 42 years of teaching in Worcester and Wicomico counties. She actually spent 38 of those years in Wicomico. Born in Whaleyville, Worcester County, MD, Mrs. Jones received her degrees from Bowie State Teachers' College and Morgan University. Since her retirement, Mrs. Jones has been a tutor at the Fruitland Community Center and has helped to direct the Tutorial Program jointly with Mrs. Mary Pinkett.

Thanks to member Alexis Dashield for the invitation and photo.

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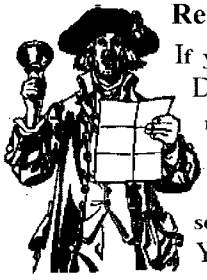
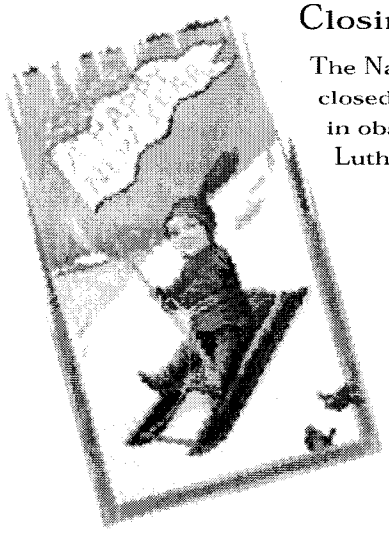


Reminder!

If your annual membership expired December 2003, the time has come to renew! Please contact the Nabb Center today about your 2004 membership—410-543-6312. Thanks to all who have sent their membership donation for 2004. Your support is greatly appreciated.



Closings

The Nabb Center will be closed Monday, January 19, in observation of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Family Genealogy Workshop

Dr. Ray Thompson of Salisbury University will present a workshop on the genealogical research of Delmarva families on Saturday, February 7. Thompson will tell of the significance of oral history and the intricacies involved in deciphering Colonial handwriting and jargon. He will demonstrate how to use the best sources available in a "hands-on" manner and will also provide a handbook on research methods and sources.

The workshop will be an all-day event from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. with a break for lunch. It will be hosted by and held at the Nabb Research Center. The price is $40; Nabb members and SU students will receive a $5 discount. For more information and to reserve a seat, contact the Center at 410-543-6312 or visit nabbhistory@salisbury.edu.

Thank You!

Thanks to everyone who sent the Nabb Center staff holiday cards, fruit baskets, candy and cookies. We appreciate your kindness very much.